

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Preliminary Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed March 3, 2005. Applicants respectfully disagree with the grounds for rejection and file this preliminary amendment along with a Request for Continued Examination. All prior pending claims (claims 1-36) have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 37-69 have been added.

Examination and allowance of pending claims 37-69 is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone at the phone number listed below if, after review, such claims are still not in condition for allowance. This telephone conference would greatly facilitate the examination of the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: September 6, 2005

By: 

William W. Schaal

Reg. No. 39,018

Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

FACSIMILE

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and
Trademark Office.

Date: 09/06/05


Susan McFarlane

09/06/05

Date